

Coal Shipments November, 1909

—DOMINION COAL COMPANY, LTD.—

Shipments July 1909	206 850
" Aug. "	248 629
" Sept. "	200 893
" Oct. "	195 888
" Nov. "	188 135
	1 040 395
Shipments 11 mos. 1909	2 250 386
" 11 " 1908	3 049 091
Decrease 11 " 1909	798 705

NOVA SCOTIA STEEL & COAL CO.

Shipments Nov. 1909	84 035
" " 1908	56 007
Increase " 1909	28 028
Shipments 11 mos. 1909	734 241
" 11 " 1908	601 620
Increase 11 " 1909	132 621

ACADIA COAL CO.

Shipments Nov. 1909	28 793
" " 1908	29 014
Decrease " 1909	221
Shipments 11 mos. 1909	252 522
" 11 " 1908	294 400
Decrease 11 " 1909	41 877

INTERCOLONIAL COAL CO.

Shipments Nov. 1909	23 382
" " 1908	15 771
Increase " 1909	7 611
Shipments 11 mos. 1909	232 798
" 11 " 1908	226 067
Increase 11 " 1909	6 731

INVERNESS RAILWAY & COAL CO.

Shipments Nov. 1909	23 478
" " 1908	22 635
Increase " 1909	843
Shipments 11 mos. 1909	209 184
" 11 " 1908	240 871
Decrease 11 " 1909	31 687

Notwithstanding all that some Montreal brokers and bankers may say, the Scotia directors must be credited with wisdom in declaring a bonus of twenty per cent. They tell us that a bonus is not as good as a six per cent dividend. Perhaps not so far as money in hand goes, but it is better for the future of the shareholders, those who are investors and not speculators, Scotia will do

so well, it is expected, in future that profits may warrant more than a six per cent dividend. But 'policy' cries out 'have a care.' If you declare too big a dividend some others may put in a claim for a share. Who these are we need not particularize. The stock given additional as a bonus, can not be in future called 'water', for as the directors say a million and a half was short paid the common stockholders in the way of dividends. The money was used for additions and improvements. The twenty per cent. bonus does not cover the indebtedness to the holders of common, and it may be that, in course of time, another bonus may be in order to square matters. Those directors are wise, who while striving after big profits, refrain from flaunting them.

One would scarcely expect that Haywood, of Colorado, of all men, seeing he declares he was hounded, persecuted, defamed, hit below the belt and so forth, would be one likely to do that which he violently condemns in others. And yet that is just what he did when he stated that Grand Sec'y. Moffatt held a block of Dominion Coal Co's stock. The intention is evident and was despicable. He desired to create distrust, and induce the men to believe that Moffatt, in his own interest, might favor the Coal Co. Mr. Moffatt denies ever having held stock in the Coal Company. Similar things were said with evil intent of a former secretary, who never saw or handled any of the culificates of the company. If men like Haywood are the accepted champions of American unionists, God help the unionists.

AFTER DAMP.

Referring to a late colliery disaster in Wales when five would be rescues,—the death roll being 27,—lost their lives, a correspondent of Science and Art says.

During the last 12 years so much has been written upon the death dealing constituents of after-damp by leading medical and other experts, that there can be no excuse for ignorance upon this point by any person occupying a responsible position in connection with a colliery. At Penygraig explosion in 1884 three rescuers lost their lives because they staked their faith and their safety upon their lights which they carried. As their leader remarked "while the light will burn he can live." Those were his last words. Is this idea possibly not dead yet? Herein lies the insidiousness of CO₂. The preponderance of CO₂ would be a rather fortunate circumstance and so also would a reduction in the oxygen percentage present in the mine air. Either of these conditions would operate to put out the lights and, being unable to proceed, the dead rescuers might have been alive to-day. Another, medical gentleman, was very nearly added to the list of victims. It is difficult to furnish adequate reason for rushing forward into an atmosphere without safe means of testing, and particularly in an environment altogether new. Probably the reader will object to these remarks and insist that a laudable object—that of saving life—was the incentive. In this the writer fully concurs, but it is as well to remember on occasions like this that would-be rescuers are capable of greater service when alive than dead. In the words of Dr. Leonard Hill "No amount of enthusiastic courage avails, and it is very foolish to enter such places without a dress." One might add, "or at any rate until the ventilation is partially restored."